

Meeting was called to order by Committee Chair, Mr. Rogacki at 9:30A.M., at the Vilas County Courthouse, Conference Room 2, in Eagle River, Wisconsin.

Roll call for attendance: Kim Simac, Erv Teichmiller, Mark Rogacki, Mary Kim Black and Vernon Wiggenhauser were in attendance.

Others present: Jason Hilger, Kate Gardner, Martha Milanowski, Mike Biszak, Jim Galloway, Deb Bohn, Judge Nielsen, Paul Tirpe, Joe Fath, Ken Anderson, Tom Nitz, Jean Nitz and Kris Duening.

Motion made by Ms. Black to approve the agenda to be discussed in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Seconded by Mr. Wiggenhauser. All voting aye. Carried.

Motion made by Mr. Teichmiller to approve the previous minutes from August 13th, 2014. Seconded by Mr. Wiggenhauser. Discussion-none. All voting aye. Carried.

Approval of Bills and Payroll – Motion made by Mr. Wiggenhauser to approve bills and payroll. Seconded by Ms. Black. Discussion-None. All voting aye. Carried.

Children's Protective Services – On Call Pay – Mr. Teichmiller indicated the need for this to support those individuals being called after hours for services. Most counties have established a system like this and it seems appropriate for us to address it. The estimated net fiscal impact of this is reported to be \$8,566 as provided by the Department of Social Services. Mr. Teichmiller made a motion to approve the policy and the rate. Seconded by Mr. Wiggenhauser. Discussion-it was noted that any future changes requested to the rate or to the policy would be brought back to personnel and to finance for future debate. All voting aye. Carried.

Implementing the Medical Examiner Position in Vilas County/Abolish Coroner Position - Mr. Tirpe addressed the Committee and explained that most of his over-budgeted expenditures are because of the autopsies that have been performed as a request from law enforcement. Discussion pursued regarding any difference in services between that of a medical examiner and a coroner. It was noted that the services will be very similar. The committee members felt it would be necessary to get more information before they voted to implement a medical examiner position. Mr. Rogacki inquired of Ms. Milanowski if there was a timeline for abolishing the coroner position. Ms. Milanowski indicated there is an opinion from the Attorney General's office which says the abolishment can occur any day before the election of the new term. She also indicated that the GAB provided that the ideal timeline is before papers are taken out. Mr. Rogacki suggested that Vilas County implement a medical examiner position to have more control, reduce costs and not be locked into a 4 year term with a coroner. It was the consensus of the committee to gather more information and more fully discuss this with our sheriff, district attorney and human resources. The committee would like to meet with the Oneida County medical examiner to further evaluate this option.

Veterans Services Officer Grant – Mr. Biszak indicated that it his opinion that we are not handling his grant correctly in the budget. He indicated we should budget our expenditures as presented without consideration of the grant funds and then allow the grant funds to be spent in addition to the budgeted expenditures if the grant funds are received. Mr. Teichmiller indicated that is contrary to past practice for all departments that receive grants and further indicated the budget should be approved with the expectation that anticipated grants are going to be received and included in revenue as an offset.

2015 Budget Target Goals - Mr. Rogacki addressed the committee and wanted to know if the members of the committee would like the tax levy to be more than, equal to or less than the prior year. The 2013 levy collected in 2014 was \$13.7M. The preliminary maximum 2014 levy to be collected in 2015 is \$12.9M. The discussion quickly moved into the following agenda item.

2015 Budget – The budget deficit and the options of using general fund balance or borrowing was briefly discussed. Ms. Black inquired if the County could borrow money to help provide for capital assets. Mr. Hilger indicated the County could borrow approximately \$1.2 million and maintain the same mill rate as the prior year.

Mr. Hilger indicated that the unassigned general fund balance is in excess of the finance approved range and that that borrowing may not be politically supported at this time. Mr. Wiggenhauser and Mr. Rogacki indicated they would like to see the budget deficit be eliminated through reduced spending. Ms. Simac agreed and Mr. Rogacki directed Mr. Hilger to ask all department heads if they can tighten their budgets and bring forth suggested changes to eliminate the \$2.4M deficit.

Finance Report – The August finance report was presented. Cash and investments are reported as \$14.7 million and unassigned fund balance of \$9.7 million.

Line Item Transfers – None noted.

Resolution to County Board – Financial Consideration for 2nd Courtroom and Judgeship - Judge Nielsen presented information to the committee indicating Vilas County is currently the 4th busiest court system in the State of Wisconsin. He recognizes the difficulty in supporting the 2nd judgeship without knowing the costs involved with making the space necessary. However, to move forward, he asked for the support of this Committee and County to acknowledge the need and understanding of the growth in court activity. If the bill is passed by State Legislature in 2015, the earliest Vilas County would have a judge present is 2016 or 2017. State statute requires that we provide a jury ready courtroom; however, the trend is that jury trials have declined in recent years. The judge indicated he has had 8 or 9 jury trials in recent years but only 1 this year. The judge indicated he often times uses the small court room because it is more convenient and has better acoustics. The court commissioner also uses the small courtroom. The judge indicated we could ask for approval from the Supreme Court to use the small court room for space for this 2nd judgeship. Mr. Rogacki suggested the County indicate to the State that we request the allocation of a judge but that we do not include our support of space and personnel on the resolution. Mr. Teichmiller made a motion to approve the resolution as it appears. Seconded by Ms. Black. Those voting aye: Mr. Teichmiller and Ms. Black. Those voting nay: Mr. Wiggenhauser, Mr. Rogacki and Ms. Simac. Motion fails. Motion by Mr. Wiggenhauser to reconsider. Seconded by Ms. Simac. Vote aye to bring back the original resolution for consideration: Ms. Black, Ms. Simac, Mr. Wiggenhauser, and Mr. Teichmiller. Voting nay: Mr. Rogacki. Carried. Original motion is now back on the table. Discussion - Mr. Rogacki indicated he would prefer to have a steering committee (to avoid quorum issues) look at space needs and he would like to use the word “examine” instead of “support” on line 18 of the resolution. There were options discussed on how to approve the resolution in some form so it could proceed to the County Board for deliberation. Ms. Milanowski indicated that the Committee could pass the resolution and then direct her to draft an amendment to be provided at the floor of the county board. Vote on the original motion for the resolution as it appears. All voting aye. Carried. Motion by Ms. Simac to request Ms. Milanowski to draft an amendment to line 18. Seconded by Mr. Wiggenhauser. Voting aye: Mr. Rogacki, Mr. Wiggenhauser, Ms. Simac, Ms. Black. Nay: Mr. Teichmiller. Carried.

Out of County/State Travel – Motion made by Mr. Teichmiller to approve out of county travel for the Assistant District Attorney to attend SPET Fall Conference in Madison from 11/18/14 to 11/21/14 and for the Treasurer to attend fall WCTA Conference in WI Rapids from 10/15/14 to 10/17/14. Seconded by Ms. Black. All voting aye. Carried.

Letters and Communications – None.

Future meeting dates – Next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 3rd at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the budget.

There is nothing more on the agenda therefore; the meeting is adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Minutes reflect the recorders notations and are subject to approval by the appropriate board or committee.

Submitted by: Jason Hilger